THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A three pronge strategy has been evolved to intensify exploration in the country during the 17th Plan, as follows:—

— Intensifying exploratory activities by ONGC and OIL.

— Intensive integrated exploration programmes in selected basins with Soviet assistance.

— Offering selected blocks in offshore areas for exploration by foreign oil companies.

Tapti Gas Project

41. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tapti Gas Project in the Western Coast has been lying pending since long with Government for clearance;

(b) since when the project has been lying pending;

(c) by when the project is likely to be cleared; and

(d) what are the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (d) A feasibility report was prepared by ONGC in November 1985 which was updated in September 1986 with revised data of reserves and revised capital outlay. Consideration of the project has been pending capital outlay. Consideration view of the delay in the offtake of gas from the HBJ pipeline and the higher availabilty of the associated gas from Bombay High.

Amount spent by ONGC for exploration work

42. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by O.N.G.C. for exploration work for oil and gas in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan so far;

(b) the number of wells in both the States where oil and gas have been struck; and

(c) the estimated amount likely to be spent by O.N.G.C. during the year 1988-89 for the purpose in both the States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Total amount spent by ONGC on exploratory drilling in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan upto March, 1987 was as under:—

	Rs. crores
Andhra Pradesh	160.50
Rajasthan	42.85

(b) Oil/gas were discovered in twelve wells in Andhra Pradesh and gas in 8 wells in Rajasthan.

(c) Andhra Pradesh. Rs. 79.20 crores Rajasthan: Rs. 32.30 crores.

Prices of price controlled products

43. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has increased the prices of a number of price controlled products after the announcement of DPCO, 1987;

(b) the names of the medicines where prices have been increased by more than 20 per cent alongwith the previous price present price and percentage increase in each case;

(c) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry is considering increases of other price controlled medicines also; and

(d) if so, the details of those medicines and when the increase in prices is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a), (c) and (d) Price fixation under the DPCO, 1987 is a continuous process.

(b) The number of formulations packs prices of which are controlled under DPCO, 1987 is very large. Increase has been allowed in the prices of some formulation packs as per provisions of DPCO, 1987.

Price of Tolbutamide

44. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2640 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st March, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Consumer Associations, Medical Association, Voluntary Health Organisations, Social Workers and public men submitted representations both to the Kelkar Committee as well as to his Ministry for inclusion of Tolbutamide, Benzocamine, Bacitracin, Kenamycin Lincomycin, Polymixin, Colistin, Metformin under price control;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the basis and justification given by each of them in support of inclusion of these drugs;

(c) whether the Kilkar Committee and his Ministry have taken any decision on these representations; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof alongwith the drugs included inprice control?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) Details of representations received from the industry, Organisations/Associations and Members of Parliament regarding inclusion in/exclusion from the price controlled categories of drugs are given in the enclosed Statement I, II, and III respectively. (*See* below). The representations have been forwarded to the Kelkar Committee. The report of the Committee has not been received.

Statement-I

LIST OF COMPANIES FOR WHOM REPERESENTATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY KELKAR COMMITTEE

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Drug in respect of which the Company has represented
1.	M/s. Themis Chemicals Ltd.	Cyproheptadine Hcl.
2.	M/s. Dupher Interfran Ltd.	Paracetamol
3.	M/s. IPCA Ltd.	Metro clopramide
4.	M/s. CIPLA Ltd.	Piroxical and Salbutamol
5.	M/s. Wockhardt Ltd.	Dextropropoxyphene
6.	M/s. May & Baker (I) Ltd.	P-rochlorperazine & metronidazole
7.	M/s. FDC (P) Ltd.	Oral Rehydration salts.
8.	M/s. Walter Bushnel (P) Ltd.	Interpretation of para 7 of DPCO, 1987
9.	M/s. Burroughs Welcome (I) Ltd.	Paracetamol & pseudo Ephidrine